

REMARKS

Claims 1-27 are all the claims that were pending in the Application. Claims 8-14 are withdrawn from consideration pursuant to a restriction requirement. By this Amendment, Applicants cancel claims 6, 18, 21-23, and 27 without prejudice and/or disclaimer. Hence, claims 1-5, 7-17, 19, 20, and 24-26 are all the claims currently pending in the Application.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 1-5, 7, 15-17, 19, 20 and 24-26 are allowed. In view of the cancellation of the remaining rejected claims, Applicants submit that all the pending claims are allowed, and Applicants respectfully request that this application be passed to issue at the earliest possible time.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
Application No.: 09/843,765

Attorney Docket No.: Q63763

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

/SMG/

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